

PAY AND SUBSISTENCE OF THE ARMY, 1931

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

DRAFT OF A PROPOSED PROVISION PERTAINING TO EXISTING
APPROPRIATIONS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT, "PAY OF THE
ARMY, 1931," AND "SUBSISTENCE OF THE ARMY, 1931"

FEBRUARY 17 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 23), 1931.—Read, referred to the Com-
mittee on Appropriations, and ordered to be printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 21, 1931.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress a draft of a proposed provision pertaining to existing appropriations of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, namely, "Pay of the Army, 1931," and "Subsistence of the Army, 1931."

The details of this provision, the necessity therefor, and the reasons for its transmission at this time are set forth in the letter of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget transmitted herewith, with whose comments and observations thereon I concur.

Respectfully,

HERBERT HOOVER.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, February 21, 1931.

SIR: I have the honor to submit draft of a proposed provision pertaining to existing appropriations of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, as follows:

Pay of the Army: The sum of \$400,000 of the appropriation for "Subsistence of the Army," contained in the War Department appropriation act, fiscal year 1931, approved May 28, 1930, is hereby made available for expenditure for

"Pay of the Army, 1931," including the same objects specified under that head in the War Department appropriation act for the fiscal year 1931 (act May 28, 1930, vol. 46, pp. 435, 437).

The appropriation for "Pay of the Army," fiscal year 1931, contained in the War Department appropriation act, 1931, approved May 28, 1930, provided that \$800,000 of the amount required for that purpose should be supplied by the Secretary of War from funds received during the fiscal year 1931 from the purchase by enlisted men of the Army of their discharges. It develops that enlisted men of the Army are not purchasing their discharge during the current fiscal year at the rate anticipated or at the rate maintained during several fiscal years past. The amount received by the War Department from this source to February 1, 1931, is materially less than was estimated, and receipts from this source during the remainder of the fiscal year are expected to show a still further reduction. As a result of this condition the War Department is now confronted with an estimated deficiency in the 1931 appropriation for "Pay of the Army" of approximately \$400,000.

To supply the estimated deficiency for 1931 in the appropriation "Pay of the Army" it is proposed to transfer to this appropriation \$400,000 from the appropriation for "Subsistence of the Army, 1931." The latter appropriation was predicated upon an average cost of the ration of 50 cents, whereas, due to reduction in the cost of food products, the cost of the ration for the first six months of the current fiscal year has averaged only 42.5 cents. This has resulted in a surplus under "Subsistence of the Army" of such proportions as to fully warrant the proposed transfer of funds.

The foregoing provision is made necessary by a contingency which has arisen since the transmission of the Budget for 1931. I recommend that it be transmitted to Congress.

Very respectfully,

J. CLAWSON ROOP,
Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

The PRESIDENT.

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